

Appl. No. : 10/607,946
Filed : June 27, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1 of the specification, please amend the text after the heading "Related Applications" as follows (this paragraph was previously amended in a Preliminary Amendment filed September 5, 2003):

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/489,189, filed on Jan. 20, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,599,273, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/150,580, filed Sep. 10, 1998, now abandoned, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/476,127, filed Jun. 7, 1995, now abandoned, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/265,095, filed Jun. 24, 1994, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/096,659, filed July 23, 1993, now U.S. Patent No. 5,695,466, which is a continuation-in-part application of PCT Application Serial No. PCT/US92/10367, filed December 1, 1992, which designates the United States and is a continuation-in-part in the United States of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/813,073, filed December 18, 1991, which is abandoned. The disclosures of these related applications are incorporated herein in their entirety by this reference thereto.

Please replace the Abstract with the following rewritten paragraph:

A fluid transfer device including ~~comprising~~ a hollow piercing element having a first end for receiving a standard syringe nose or other similar medical device and a second end having a tapered tip for accessing fluid inside a medication container is disclosed. In a preferred embodiment, the device has a disk-shaped stop for limiting entry of the piercing element into the vial. Preferably, the piercing element includes outwardly extending barbs which allow the device to be inserted into a vial but which prevent the device from being removed from the vial after insertion. After the syringe is disengaged from the device, the device and spent medication vial may be discarded as a unit. Alternatively, the device can remain attached to the vial, and a new syringe can be used to withdraw additional fluid from the vial when desired. In an alternate

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embodiment, a reusable, resealable valve is connected to the first end of the piercing element, which valve allows multiple syringes to be used with the piercing element. Various adaptors for using the device with intravascular (IV) lines and drip-bags are also disclosed.